

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF LICENSED CLINICAL
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS

IN THE MATTER OF:

Charles Gentzel, LCMHCA
Respondent
License No. A16966

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CONSENT ORDER
OF
PERMANENT SURRENDER

THIS CAUSE, coming on to be heard and being heard before the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors [“the Board”], pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 90-340(b); and

IT APPEARING to the Board that Respondent has stipulated to certain facts and to the entry of a Consent Order in conformity therewith;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by the undersigned Respondent and the Board that:

1. Respondent is a licensed clinical mental health counselor associate [“LCMHCA”] and is subject to the Board’s jurisdiction pursuant to the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act, Chapter 90, Article 24 of the North Carolina General Statutes.
2. The Board issued Respondent a counseling associate license on September 15, 2021. Respondent has renewed his license through June 30, 2025.
3. Several complaints were filed against Respondent -- Board file numbers 2150, 2151, 2152, and 2156. All these complaints arose out of the same inappropriate behavior with a client.
4. The allegations, if proven, would constitute a violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-340(a)(9), (a)(10), (a)(13), and (a)(14) of the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act and Sections A.1.a, A.4.a, A.5.a, and A.5.e of the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics (2014).
5. In lieu of responding to the complaints and allegations in file numbers 2150, 2151, 2152, and 2156, Respondent has elected to permanently surrender his license.
6. Because of Respondent’s decision to permanently surrender his license, the Board did not make any findings or conclusions about the allegations in file numbers 2150, 2151, 2152, and 2156.
7. Respondent was represented by Nicholas Dowgul with North State Law in connection with the investigation and execution of this Consent Order. The Board was represented in this Consent Order by Douglas Brocker of The Brocker Law Firm, P.A.
8. The Board and Respondent wish to avoid the time and the costs associated with full litigation of this matter through a contested case hearing and potential judicial review pursuant to Articles 3A

and 4 of the Administrative Procedure Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 150B-38 to 52 [“APA”]. The parties enter into this Consent Order *in lieu* of those potential proceedings.

9. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and potential approval by the Board and shall be effective only upon approval by the full Board and signature of its Chairperson.

10. If the Board approves and enters the Consent Order, Respondent expressly waives the right: (i) to issuance of a notice of hearing, a hearing, the making of findings of fact and conclusions of law, and all further proceedings before the Board, (ii) to seek judicial review, and (iii) to otherwise challenge the validity of this Consent Order in any court or before the Board in the future, which Respondent may be entitled to under the APA or other laws.

11. Respondent has read this entire Consent Order, assents to its terms and conditions, and, if accepted by the Board, agrees not to contest the stipulations or order in any future potential proceedings by, against, or involving the Board.

12. Respondent agrees to service of the fully executed Consent Order to his attorney in this matter via email and waives service by any other method.

13. Respondent further agrees that presentation of this proposed Consent Order to the Board for approval shall not constitute improper *ex parte* communication between the Board and its counsel, or the Board and its staff, nor require the recusal of the members of the Board from consideration of this matter before the full Board, including if the Board rejects the proposal or a hearing becomes necessary in this case.

14. Respondent forever releases the State of North Carolina, the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors, and all its members, officials, agents, counsel, representatives, and employees, both past and present, in their individual or official capacities, from any and all liability, suits, claims, and causes of action arising prior to or as a result of the execution of this Consent Order.

15. This Consent Order contains the entire agreement between the undersigned, there being no agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies, alters, or adds to this Consent Order.

16. No provision of this Consent Order shall constitute an admission or stipulation for any purpose other than for this and any other proceeding before, by, against, or involving the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors.

17. This Consent Order shall constitute disciplinary action against the license of Respondent, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-340(a) and (b). Respondent understands that this Consent Order may have adverse consequences in other contexts, which shall not be the basis for reconsideration of its terms in the future.

Based upon the record and the foregoing stipulations,

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

I. Respondent permanently surrenders his associate license to practice clinical mental health counseling in the State of North Carolina, license number A16966, which becomes effective upon entry of this Consent Order, and acknowledges and agrees that he cannot reapply for or regain a license to practice clinical mental health counseling in North Carolina at any time in the future, and the Board shall not accept or consider any future application or request from him to obtain a license.

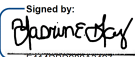
II. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that he is not authorized to engage in any acts constituting the practice of clinical mental health counseling under the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act in this State or concerning residents of this State. Respondent has submitted to the Board or destroyed his original license in connection with his permanent surrender.

III. The Board shall maintain this Consent Order as a public record pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§132-1 and 90-340(f), shall submit a report to the National Practitioner Databank, and shall provide copies to the American Counseling Association and the National Board of Certified Counselors, and to other agencies or individuals as required by law.

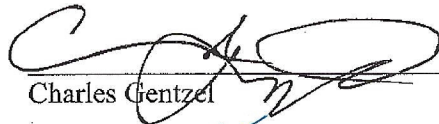
IV. The Board shall retain jurisdiction of this matter and Respondent to enforce the provisions herein or enter orders as necessary in the future.

CONSENTED TO BY:

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF LICENSED
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS

BY:  4/17/25
Dr. Yasmin Gay, LCMHCS Date
Board Chairperson

RESPONDENT:

 3/17/2025
Charles Gentzel Date

 3-17-2025
Nicholas Dowgul Date
Counsel for Respondent